(c) Several steps have been taken to increase oil and gas production, which include the following:

(i) to improve the recovery factor from existing major fields by implementing Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR)/Improved Oil Recovery (IOR) schemes.

(ii) to increase exploration efforts through the New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP).

(iii) to explore in new areas, especially in deep water and difficult frontier areas, as also explore in the deeper layers of the producing fields.

(iv) to develop faster the newly discovered fields and to step up the use of new technologies for seismic surveys, work over, stimulation operations, drilling of wells etc. in producing areas.

Steps have also been taken to increase refining capacity by expansion of existing refineries in public sector and setting up of refineries in joint and private sectors.

Organisation of road shows

†134. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme to organize road shows in foreign countries to promote tourism;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to set up any task force for the purpose; and

(c) the amount estimated to be spent on this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) Holding of Road Shows to promote Indian tourism in foreign countries is one of the segments of the on going scheme titled 'Overseas Campaign - Advertisement and Publicity' of the Department of Tourism.

(b) No, Sir.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) The expenditure on such road shows is met from the budget provided to the Govt. of India Tourist Offices abroad under the above scheme.

Investment of NRIs in Tourism Sector for North Eastern Region

135. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the steps being taken by Government to attract NRIs to make investment in tourism sector in the North Eastern Region;

(b) whether Government have formulated any policy in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) Government of India has formulated plans to attract NRI investment in the tourism sector, including the North Eastern Region. The Department of Tourism through its overseas offices in association with the Indian travel trade has proposed to undertake road shows in the major NRI markets to promote both tourism and investment in the tourism sector.

(b) and (c) Government of India has identified Tourism as a "High Priority" industry for foreign and private investment. To induce foreign investment and NRI investment upto 100% alongwith foreign collaboration in respect of Technical Consultancy Service, Franchise, Management Fee are under the automatic approval scheme where such proposals are cleared by RBI itself.